



Global significance of the SSF Guidelines

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The importance of small-scale fisheries



39.4 million capture fishers: over 90% are small-scale



Most are in developing countries



Half are women



Socio-economic function: food and nutrition security (global: 19.2kg/person/year), income, employment, GDP, trade,...



But:

The social and economic importance of small-scale fisheries is still not fully recognised or understood

International discussions and issues



2012: Adoption of the Voluntary Guidelines for the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security

- Responsible and secure **access and user rights, human rights based approach**



2012: Report of Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food on fish

- Challenges: **environmental sustainability, globalization** of the fishing industry, promotion **of human rights based approach**



2012: Rio+20 'The future we want'

- SSFs as **catalysts of sustainable development** in fisheries, ensure **access** to fisheries, importance of access to **markets, empowerment**



2014: CFS HLPE report on sustainable fisheries and aquaculture for food security and nutrition

- Fish neglected in **food/nutrition strategies**, exposure to **risks and pressures**, SSF vs large-scale, fish trade, **social protection and labour rights, gender equity, governance**



2014: 31st Session of Committee on Fisheries

- Endorsement of the SSF Guidelines

SSF Guidelines: Development process

2008: First Global Conference on Small-Scale Fisheries, Bangkok

2014: Resumed Session of the Technical Consultation

2014: 31st COFI – Endorsement of the SSF Guidelines

2010: Regional consultations on bringing together responsible fisheries and social development

2013: Technical Consultation

2011: 29th COFI recommends development of international instrument

2011 – 2013: National, regional, international consultations, workshops, events

Over 4 000 stakeholders directly involved

Conclusion: Global significance of the SSF Guidelines

- First ever **international instrument** entirely dedicated to SSF
 - Bring together social development and responsible fisheries → **beyond fisheries**
 - Complement important international instruments
 - Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries
 - Right to Food Guidelines
 - Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests
- Common grounding in **human rights principles**



Conclusion: Global significance of the SSF Guidelines ctd.

Influence on policy processes:

- Committee on Global Food Security: *Principles for responsible investment in agriculture and food systems* (CFS RAI – para. 19, para 25.ii)
- NEPAD's policy framework and reform strategy for fisheries and aquaculture in Africa
- Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC), Resolution WECAFC/15/2014/8
- ...

→ Need to seize the momentum and IMPLEMENT to:

- Create awareness about rights and responsibilities;
- Claim rights and
- Realize rights





THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

For more information:

- SSFGuidelines@fao.org
- www.fao.org/fishery/ssf/guidelines/en

